## **Claims**

- [c1] What is claimed is:
  - 1.A method of detecting a data structure of data in an optical storage device, the method comprising:
  - (a) providing a first 8-bit register connected between an eight-to-fourteen modulator and a leading zero counter;
  - (b) storing the 8 least significant bits of data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the first 8-bit register; and
  - (c) calculating a number of leading zeros stored in the first 8-bit register with the leading zero counter.
- [c2] 2.The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further comprises:
  - detecting the number of leading zeros of the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register, if the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of leading zeros of the most significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register.
- [c3] 3.The method of claim 1 further comprising:
   (d) providing a second 8-bit register connected between the eight-to-fourteen modulator and a trailing zero counter;

- (e) storing the 8 most significant bits of the data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the second 8-bit register; and
- (f) calculating a number of trailing zeros stored in the second 8-bit register with the trailing zero counter.
- [c4] 4.The method of claim 3 wherein step (f) further comprises:

  detecting the number of trailing zeros of the most significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register, if the most significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of trailing zeros of the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register.
- [05] 5.The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - (d) connecting the first 8-bit register between the eightto-fourteen modulator and a trailing zero counter;
  - (e) storing the 8 most significant bits of the data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the first 8-bit register; and
  - (f) calculating a number of trailing zeros stored in the first 8-bit register with the trailing zero counter.
- [06] 6.The method of claim 5 wherein step (f) further comprises:
  - detecting the number of trailing zeros of the most sig-

nificant bits stored in the first 8-bit register, if the most significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of trailing zeros of the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register.

- [c7] 7.A method of detecting a data structure of data in an optical storage device, the method comprising:
  - (a) providing a second 8-bit register connected between an eight-to-fourteen modulator and a trailing zero counter:
  - (b) storing the 8 most significant bits of data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the second 8-bit register; and
  - (c) calculating a number of trailing zeros stored in the second 8-bit register with the trailing zero counter.
- [08] 8.The method of claim 7 wherein step (c) further comprises:
  - detecting the number of trailing zeros of the most significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register, if the most significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of trailing zeros of the least significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register.
- [09] 9. The method of claim 7 further comprising:
  - (d) providing a first 8-bit register connected between the

- eight-to-fourteen modulator and a leading zero counter; (e) storing the 8 least significant bits of the data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the first 8-bit
- (f) calculating a number of leading zeros stored in the first 8-bit register with the leading zero counter.
- [c10] 10.The method of claim 9 wherein step (f) further comprises:

register; and

detecting the number of leading zeros of the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register, if the least significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of leading zeros of the most significant bits stored in the first 8-bit register.

- [c11] 11.The method of claim 7 further comprising:
  - (d) connecting the second 8-bit register between the eight-to-fourteen modulator and a leading zero counter;
  - (e) storing the 8 least significant bits of the data output from the eight-to-fourteen modulator in the second 8-bit register; and
  - (f) calculating a number of leading zeros stored in the second 8-bit register with the leading zero counter.
- [c12] 12.The method of claim 11 wherein step (f) further comprises:
  - detecting the number of leading zeros of the least sig-

nificant bits stored in the second 8-bit register, if the least significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register are zeros; and further detecting the number of leading zeros of the most significant bits stored in the second 8-bit register.